

REMARKS

Claims 1-27, 31, 32, 37-43, and 45-58 are pending in the application. The indication of allowance of Claims 1-27, 31, 32, 37-43, 45, and 46 is noted with appreciation. Claims 47-53 have been rejected. Claims 54-58 have been objected to.

Claims 47-53 have been canceled without acquiescence to the Examiner's rejection of the claims, without abandonment of the subject matter of the canceled claims, and without prejudice to applicants to seek a patent directed to the subject matter of the canceled claims. Claims 54 and 56 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-27, 31, 32, 37-43, 45, 46, and 54-58 in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claims 47-53 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 47-53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by DE 2342925 issued to Narr et al. Claims 47-53 have been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 47-53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 47-53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the Narr reference. Claims 47-53 have been canceled. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 54-58 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested for the following reasons.

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Claim 54 has been rewritten in independent format and amended to include the recitations of Claims 47 and 53. Claim 55 depends from Claim 54 and is believed to be in proper form.

Claim 56 has been amended to include the recitation of Claim 47. Claims 57 and 58 depend from Claim 56 and are believed to be in proper form.

In view of the amendments to Claims 54 and 56, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and foregoing remarks, applicants believe that Claims 1-27, 31, 32, 37-43, 45, 46, and 54-58 are in condition for allowance. If any issues remain that may be expeditiously addressed in a telephone interview, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' attorney at 206.695.1755.

Respectfully submitted,

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